



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

62nd Army Band honors former band member, about to turn 99

Russell Pelequin played trumpet with Army band during World War II and beyond

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 19, 2011

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AUSTIN — The 62nd Army Band will perform a special tribute concert for Russell Pelequin at 2 p.m. Friday, at El Paso's Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home.

Pelequin, a resident at the veterans' home and former trumpeter with the band, will be honored for his lifetime of service to our nation. The concert will be a surprise for Pelequin, who turns 99 years old on Aug. 15.

Pelequin played trumpet with big bands prior to World War II and served during the war in France, playing with the Army Band under the direction of Gordon Booth. Pelequin later rejoined Booth at Fort Bliss with the 62nd Army Band in 1955.

Texas State Veterans Homes are made possible through a unique partnership between the Texas Veterans Land Board and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Each home provides skilled long-term nursing care, comprehensive rehabilitation programs, special diets, recreational activities, social services, a library, and a certified, secured Alzheimer's unit with its own secured outdoor courtyard.

For additional information on Texas State Veterans Homes, please call 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or visit the Texas Veterans Land Board website at www.texasveterans.com . Or, find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TXVLB> .

WHO: Russell Pelequin, 62nd Army Band

WHAT: Surprise 99th birthday party, concert for veterans at the home

WHEN: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., Friday, May 20, 2011

WHERE: Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home, 9650 Kenworthy Street

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